

SECRET

NPIC/TSSG/DED-1748-69
4 August 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Advanced Printer for Continuous Exposure Control (PAR 170B)

1. The present procedure for the production of duplicate positive prints is to divide the O.N. into roughly two density groups for separate printing and development (dual printing). This requires, first of all, a selection process by the operators and secondly, provides only two very gross exposure categories. Additionally, cross web variations, i.e., clouds and shadows, are not considered.
2. A step and repeat printer is a partial answer to the labor problems but is not the answer to production requirements. Again, the exposure is gross--the entire frame is exposed as a unit and the printing of especially long frames result in an area problem.
3. The advent of large quantities of O.N. for dupe positive printing could break down the present system. There is no doubt that there is a need for an incremental scanner-printer. However, there are many problems associated with this approach and there is a question as to whether it would be suitable to all types of camera formats.
4. In short, the proposal for a scanner-printer is timely and appropriate. However, caution should be urged in jumping into the breadboard phase. An extensive study, rather than a short evaluation of present scanning techniques is recommended prior to assembly of any hardware for a breadboard. This is the weak link in the proposal! The hardware is available, practically off-the-shelf and requires only assembly. Of course, a good T&E of the mockup is necessary to provide an operational evaluation of the technique and equipment.

SDB / DED / TSSG

Attachment:
PAR 170B

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